

***Interview Summary***

1. A proposed amendment was submitted for applicant's consideration. Examiner suggested the Applicant to amend claims as shown in the Examiner's Amendment below in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

***Examiner's Amendment***

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with the Applicant's Representative, Mr. Aslan Ettehadieh (Reg. No. 62,278), on August 06<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

4. Please amend claims 1, 12, 25 and cancel claim 33 as below:

**Claim 1. (Currently Amended)** A device control management apparatus, comprising:

a first communication section connected to each of communication devices via each of first communication paths;

a second communication section connected to each of controlled devices via each of second communication paths;

a control right management section that includes a control information management table, in advance, that allows the control right management section to manage a control right that is set between the communication device connected to the first communication section and the controlled devices connected to the second communication section[[],]; and

a communication management section for detecting a communication condition of at least one of the first communication path and the second communication path, wherein

the control right management section is capable of changing a setting of the control right without communicating with the communication device for which the control right is set; and

the change of setting is made in accordance with variation of the communication condition detected by the communication management section, and

the communication device is notified by the controlled device of a result of the control right, where the result includes either a notification of a success when the control right is successfully performed and a notification of a failure when the control right is unsuccessfully performed.

**Claim 12. (Currently Amended)** A device control management apparatus, being connected to communication devices via first communication paths, comprising:

a control right management section that includes a control information management table, in advance, that allows the control right management section to add or release one or more control rights for controlled devices to or from one or more communication devices in case where the device control management apparatus receives each of control commands for the controlled devices from the communication devices via the first communication paths~~[[,]]~~; and

a communication management section for detecting a communication condition for one of the first communication paths, wherein

the control right management section is capable of changing a setting of the control right without communicating with the communication device for which the control right is set; and

the change of setting is made in accordance with variation of the communication condition detected by the communication management section, and

the communication device is notified by the controlled device of a result of the control right, where the result includes either a notification of a success when the control right is successfully performed and a notification of a failure when the control right is unsuccessfully performed.

**Claim 25. (Currently Amended)** A device control management apparatus, being connected to each of communication devices via each of first communication paths,

having a function for controlling a controlled device in accordance with a predetermined control command, said device control management apparatus being characterized by comprising:

a control right management section controlling the controlled device in accordance with the control command and for adding or releasing the control right for the controlled device to or from the communication device which has sent the control command in case where the device control management apparatus receives the control command for the controlled device from the communication device via the first communication path, where the control right management section includes a control information management table, in advance, that allows the control right management section to add or release the control right for the controlled devices[[,]]; and

a communication management section for detecting a communication condition for one of the first communication paths, wherein

the control right management section is capable of changing a setting of the control right without communicating with the communication device for which the control right is set; and

the change of setting is made in accordance with variation of the communication condition detected by the communication management section, and

the communication device is notified by the controlled device of a result of the control right, where the result includes either a notification of a success when

**the control right is successfully performed and a notification of a failure when the control right is unsuccessfully performed.**

**Claim 33. (Cancelled)**

5. Claims 1, 2 and 4-32 are allowed.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should clearly labeled "Comments on Examiner's Amendment".

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's SPE, Wing Chan, can be reached at (571) 272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Art Unit: 2441

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quang N. Nguyen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2441